

# PEMBURY VILLAGE NEWS

ISSUE 154  
Summer 2013



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Front cover Photo taken by Sarah Pomfrett

Edited, typeset and printed by  
Printwells (Tunbridge Wells) Limited.  
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## PEMBURY VILLAGE NEWS

c/o Parish Council Offices, Lower Green Recreation Ground,

Lower Green Road, Pembury, TN2 4DZ

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Pembury Village News is published four times a year by the Parish Council, but the views expressed in the magazine do not necessarily represent official council opinion or policy.

## CHAIR'S REPORT SUMMER 2013

What an eventful spring we have had in the Village, working together with our residents and other organisations to fend off contentious planning applications. This was democracy at its best, all with the common goal of protecting our Village from bad planning but also ensuring that we are open to positive applications. We must be aware that appeals to some decisions will happen, but must hope that common sense will prevail in the end by the Inspectorate.



On a totally different subject, and I hope a FUN ONE, as part of Pride in Pembury let's all encourage our youngsters in the summer holidays to enter and make a SCARECROW. To participate, all you need is imagination, two broom handles, straw and some old clothes and the youngsters can be as imaginative or as outrageous as possible. The age ranges are from tots to 16, so a good age range.

Judging will take place on the last weekend in August and scarecrows are to be displayed on the lawn outside St. Peter's Church, so please encourage the youngsters where you can.

Pride in Pembury Gardeners, please enter the annual competition. The entry form is in the magazine. I personally am always humbled to view the stunning displays throughout our Village. We have such talented gardeners here in Pembury so if you feel your neighbour does a good job (won't be as good as yours!) please nominate them via the Parish Office, and it will encourage more gardeners to get involved. The overall effect for the Village is just stunning, no designated colour this year, so GARDENERS go bold and beautiful!

I am really pleased to write that we have a full complement of Councillors on the Parish Council now which is so heartening and will bring new strengths to the Council for the year to come.

Thank you for all your support and advice over the last few months, it is so appreciated. I really hope you all have a lovely summer and this year the sun really does shine and is warm!



**Cllr Mrs June Crowhurst**

### **Copy for Next Issue - Please note change of email address**

Any news items or articles for possible inclusion in the next issue of this magazine must be forwarded to the Parish Office, c/o Parish Council Offices, Lower Green Recreation Ground, Lower Green Road, Pembury, TN2 4DZ

**1st August 2013**

If you use a computer to type your article, it would be extremely helpful if you could send it (and photos attached separately) in by email to [deputy@pemburypc.kentparishes.gov.uk](mailto:deputy@pemburypc.kentparishes.gov.uk)

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Every year throughout the spring and summer KCC Highways & Transportation receive numerous complaints regarding trees, hedges and other vegetation, which overhang the highway from private property. This matter can pose a number of problems for people trying to use the footways, especially if they are trying to pass with buggies, wheelchairs and scooters. It would be greatly appreciated if you could ensure that any trees and hedges that are bordering the Highway are maintained and cut back to your boundary which would greatly benefit all Highway users. This will help us all keep the highway safe and prevent the need for KCC Highways & Transportation writing to you requesting that you cut back your vegetation.

So that you are aware of our requirements, please refer to the text below.

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- The full width of the footway/pavement must be available for use by pedestrians.
- As well, there must be a minimum height clearance over the footway/pavement of 2.1 metres / 7 feet for any vegetation.

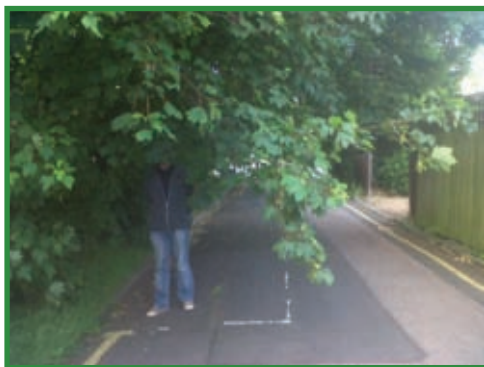
**If the boundary of your property borders the carriageway, then please be aware that:**

- If you have vegetation that overhangs into the road, there must be a minimum height clearance of 5 metres / 16 feet, to accommodate buses and HGVs that may use the road.
- If your property is rural, then vegetation should be 0.45 metres / 1'6" feet behind the edge of the road and all signs need to be kept clear of foliage for at least 20 metres.

Also, I would ask that you pay special attention to your trees, hedges and vegetation if your property is on or near a junction, and/or inside bend of the road, to maintain maximum visibility for road users.

Finally, I would like to thank you for the time taken to read this article and wish you a pleasant summer. I am looking forward to working with yourselves and your parish to keep the roads as safe and clear as possible.

**Jonathan Dean**  
**Highway Steward**  
**Kent County Council Highways & Transportation**



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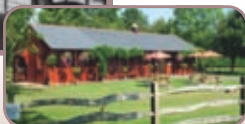
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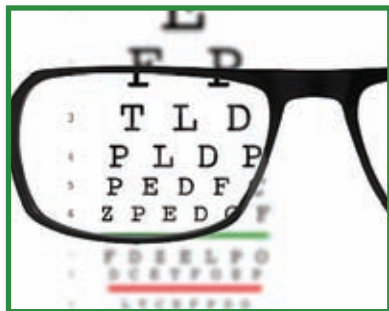
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## DR ANDREW CAMERON

Thirty odd years ago I sat in the interview room at medical school with a panel of around 10 people firing questions at me; why was I there and what did I want to be? I had my answers prepared and thought everything was going rather well. Then the chairman of the panel bowled a googly. For those who love cricket that expression needs no introduction, but for those like me who don't, the googly is something unexpected that is thrown into the situation.



The professor looked over his spectacles and told me that my headmaster had written a report stating that medicine was my second choice! He stated that my real passion was to join the RAF as a pilot; only my poor eye-sight had prevented it! I was stuck, what was I to say next? My mind was in turmoil; should I tell the truth and explain that I had other dreams or pretend my headmaster had obviously mistaken me for someone else and we should ignore the report altogether.

As it was then and has always been, that old cliché, 'the truth sets you free', came to my rescue and I had a lovely time sharing my dreams with those doctors in the interview room. The rest as we say is history; my eye-sight did not get any better and I did become a doctor. I don't have regrets anymore; looking back over the years I can see that the path I followed was the best for me.

I am reminded of the short essay by W. Somerset Maugham called 'The Verger'. It tells the story of Albert Foreman, a verger, whose job it was to assist with the church services and to be responsible for the general upkeep of St. Peter's Church, Neville Square. Albert Foreman had been the verger for many years, seeing several vicars come and go in his time. The new vicar confronted Albert with the shocking discovery that Albert could neither read nor write. This was no surprise to Albert who had gone into service at the age of twelve and had never learnt. The new vicar would not tolerate illiteracy in his church and dismissed Albert on the spot.

Walking home alone and despondent, Albert just wanted to buy some tobacco to comfort himself. He walked up and down the street but there were no shops selling tobacco. Then like a bolt from the blue Albert realised that he could not be the only man wanting to buy a little tobacco in that street; so he opened a tobacconist himself. Months passed and the profits soared until one day the bank manager spoke with Albert about investing the very large sum of money now deposited in Albert's account. When all had been discussed and decided, agreement forms needed to be read and signed by Albert. He admitted to the bank manager that he could do neither. The manager was shocked and observed that Albert was indeed a very wealthy customer and so enquired as to what Albert could have been if only he had been literate?

The answer Albert gave was simple, the verger of St. Peter's Church.

When the directions we are forced to take in our lives seem controlled by our weaknesses and inadequacies. When googlies are bowled down the wicket towards us and we are powerless to defend ourselves against them. When we look back at our lives at the many lost opportunities and use the saddest of words, 'if only'; I think we need to have a little time to realise that things actually do turn out all right in the end, but never as we expected...are you ready for take-off?

**Dr. Andrew Cameron**

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## OUT AND ABOUT CLUB....

....is not really a club as most of you might know it! For a start, there are no membership fees and no meetings to attend – but, what is available is usually about five coach trips a year, primarily for the folks of Pembury.

In 2006 a group of us from St. Peter's Church decided that we would start a club for Pembury people to get 'out and about' particularly for those who might have no other means to do so – perhaps they have mobility difficulties or no transport of their own. Such good folks are our absolute priority but, obviously we need our coaches full so we will happily accept applications from folks who will enjoy the sociability of coach trips and who want to take advantage of exploring places they may not otherwise have an opportunity to see. Our 'membership' list, no longer limited to Pembury residents only, is now well over a hundred folks who receive, at the beginning of the year, a list and details of the trips planned. You can come along and enjoy them all or you can pick and mix.... River trips, National Trust Houses, gardens, Oxford, Hidden London, Houses of Parliament – we get about!!!!



This year's itinerary:

**July: Woodbridge, Suffolk and River Debdon Cruise**

**September: Waddesdon Manor, nr Aylesbury**

**November: Lunch at the Black Horse, Pembury with surprise speaker.**

If you are interested in coming along to join us then you will need an application pack with details and dates of all the trips. Ring me, **Heather Hughes** 822764, or **Pauline Hawker** 824761, or **Jean Pearce** 824422.



## JUNIOR CUP WINNERS!!!

The King William IV Football Club has gone from strength to strength since Jordan Angus started the club in 2011. They were entered into the West Kent Sunday League division 6 in 2011/12, and after a good start, finished in 4th position, not bad for their first year together.

This season KWFC are doing really well in the league with just a handful of games left to play, and are also delighted to have beaten Tonbridge United to the WKSL Junior Cup, with a goal scored by Dave Fowler in the 85th minute! The cup has not been won by a division 6 side in 10 years, and it last took pride of place behind the bar in the King William IV pub 32 years ago, so Dave and Lyn are really happy to see it back there.



Such wonderful support was shown at the Crowborough final, with attendance of around 150 supporters for the teams on a chilly April evening. If you would be interested in supporting the team next season, the home games are played at Capel Recreational Ground, feel free to pop in to the pub and check the noticeboard for information and fixtures, or take a look at the website [kingwilliamivfc.co.uk](http://kingwilliamivfc.co.uk). They look forward to another successful season in 2013/14.

# COMMUNITY CHOIR

Do you enjoy singing?

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If yes, then join our **NEW Hospice in the Weald Community Choir** on:

Tuesday 4th June 6.30-7.30pm **FIRST REHEARSAL**

Tuesday 18th June 6.30-7.30pm **REHEARSAL**

Tuesday 2nd July 6.30-7.30pm **REHEARSAL**

Rehearsals will continue fortnightly on Tuesday evenings 6.30-7.30pm at:

Hospice in the Weald, Maidstone Road, Pembury, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN2 4TA

£5 per rehearsal

No auditions or previous singing experience is necessary. If you are over 18, enjoy singing and want to support Hospice in the Weald, please come and join us.

For more information please contact:

**Kylie Ferris (Music Therapist)**

Tel: 01892 820 500 Ext. 561

Email: [Choir@hospiceintheweald.org.uk](mailto:Choir@hospiceintheweald.org.uk)



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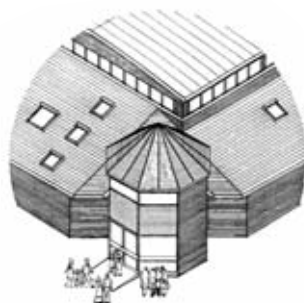
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## MAYPOLE DANCING ON THE VILLAGE GREEN

On a gloriously warm, sunny Spring afternoon girls from Years 5 and 6 took to the village green to crown the May Queen (Katie). Attendants were Charley, Nicole and Maia. They then performed traditional Maypole dances including the Spider's Web, Double Plait, Pembury Separate, Rufus Stomp and Barber's Pole. This is a tradition at Pembury School to greet the Spring. Children from Key Stage 2 and many parents came to watch and enjoy the sunshine, and we finished the afternoon by singing our Spring song, which brings joy to all our hearts. Special thanks go to Miss Chambers, Miss Knight and Mrs Plane for rehearsing with the children who performed quite complicated dances very well. Thanks girls, for a wonderful afternoon.



## PEMBURY ART AND CRAFT EVENT

The annual Art and Craft show took place on 17 – 19 May at St. Peter's Upper Church. It was opened by celebrated Tonbridge artist/sculptor Guy Portelli and showcased the fabulous talents of many local people. Pembury School Art Club put on a very striking Exhibit of St. George which was greatly admired. A short film of the event taken by a retired film-maker can be seen on [www.pembury.org](http://www.pembury.org)

This was its 5th year and thanks to the many teams of helpers, it was the best yet.





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## THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES.....!!

Sunday 14th July will be my last service in St. Peter's Church. I'm not moving away, I'm not changing church, I am simply retiring from my role as curate in this parish. I shall take up a space in the pews just like everyone else on Sundays and enjoy being 'ministered to!'

In 2013 I mark 14 years in ordained ministry and it has been a wonderful time for which I wish to thank the long-suffering congregations of St. Peter's Church and the people of this village who have accepted and supported my ministry here!

We moved to Pembury from Staffordshire in 1981 and daughter Jo and I were soon involved in worship at the Old Church as members of the robed choir under the watchful eye of organist Rex Turner. From that early commitment came election to the Parochial Church Council and thence

to a time as a churchwarden. I became aware that God was calling me into his service in some particular way and so exploration began with the result that, in 1988 I was authorised as a pastoral assistant.

As wife, mother of three, pastoral assistant and working full time as a Child Protection Social Worker I thought my life was full enough but no, God had something else in store for me! I can only describe this sense as an itch that simply would not stay scratched – something just keeps bothering away in your soul or your spirit until you finally say "OK Lord, anything for some peace. I think you are mad but I'll go, if you lead!" And God did! In Rochester Cathedral in 1999 accompanied by my family and good folks from Pembury, I was ordained deacon and priested the following year... a hugely joyful time of celebration – for me, at least! You'd best ask St Peter's congregation for their views as they may differ!

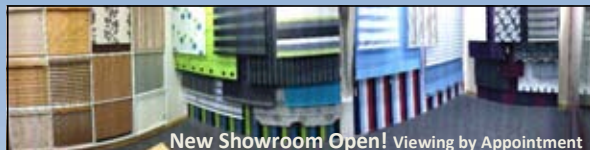
Since then life has been very full and very interesting – a real privilege to come alongside people as they experience the intense highs and lows of life – births, deaths and marriages; but, most particularly, I have known the absolute joy of being behind the altar and celebrating the Eucharist.



I know that there is an awful lot that I am going to miss, but God gave me my family too and I know that, at this present time, they need more time than I am able to give them and fulfil my vocation as a priest properly and reliably too. Retirement is just round the corner but it will be accompanied by the most wonderful memories!

**Rev'd. Heather Hughes**





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## HARD PRESSED

On **Saturday 29th June** the Kent and Sussex-based Folk Group **HARD PRESSED** will be performing at the St. Peter's Upper Church, giving us a rollicking programme of their sea songs, shanties, and other folk songs - both traditional and contemporary. Many of their numbers give the audience the opportunity to

join in, so why not come and listen and sing along at this fun-for-all evening. There will be a beer, wine and juice bar, so while you listen and sing you can also enjoy a drink if you wish.

# HARD PRESSED



Doors and Bar open 7pm. Tickets £7; schoolchildren £2 from the Pharmacy, Post Office and Jackie on 01892 825032.

The three members of **HARD PRESSED** are Liz Randall (vocals, accordion, concertina and whistle); Derek Seed (convenor and vocals); and Pembury's very own Roger Resch (vocals and accordion). Whilst **HARD PRESSED** plays mostly in Folk Clubs and venues in Kent and Sussex, they also play nationally, including this year at International Festivals in Ellesmere Port and Harwich.

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## PEMBURY PLAYERS

On Friday 21st June at 8pm Pembury Players will be trying out a new venture. They will be teaming up with fellow thespians and putting on a joint production with Horsmonden Players.

The evening will comprise two One-Act Plays: 'A New Leaf' by E. Eynon Evans [Published by Samuel French] and 'Calling Time' by Derek Webb [Published by New Theatre Productions].

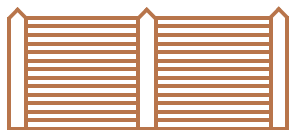
The first play 'A New Leaf' directed by Derek Hollweg is a light comedy originally written for a competition. It is set in the 1950s in a Welsh mining village. The main character Tom Thomas decides to turn over a new leaf and reform his hitherto irresponsible behaviour but his wife Mary completely misunderstands his intentions which leads to an amusing and unexpected outcome!

The second play 'Calling Time' directed by John McMaster comprises a series of linked short comedies set in the bar of a pub over the course of one evening. The content ranges from straight comedy to the more thought provoking and unusual!

Tickets all priced at £7.50 [no concessions] will be available from Pembury Pharmacy or at the door and there will be a licensed bar to help make the occasion suitably relaxing. The same show will be staged at Horsmonden Village Hall on the following evening.

Players' Chairman, Martin Sully, says *'I hope a lot of our regular supporters will come along and see this show. It is an exciting new venture for us and I am delighted to be able to welcome the Horsmonden Players to join us on our stage. I am confident the evening will provide excellent entertainment as all the actors are working very hard to put on a first class performance.'*





## Steffan Keily

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#### WEDNESDAYS

##### **Knatty Knitters**

1.30 – 3.00pm

This is a group for everyone from beginners through to experienced knitters. All welcome.



#### THURSDAYS

##### **Storytime**

2.30 – 3.00pm - Term time only

Bring your child along to the library to listen to some stories.

In addition to the above, the library offers free computer access, a small reference library including information on local history and leaflets on local activities. It also has volunteer Web Wizards who can help with computer related questions. Various book groups run from the library – new members are always welcome. There is also a Home Library Service for those unable to get to the library. Take time to call in - a warm welcome awaits you and you might just be amazed at what you will find that is on offer. If you would like details on any of the above, please contact the library on 01892 822278.



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## HOPE IS STILL ACTIVE!

The Anglican, Baptist and Catholic Church communities have been planning continued joint activities for 2013 and beyond under the 'Hope' banner. This follows the highly successful efforts to help the Pakistani village of Sais Mandi, devastated by flooding in 2010, which was reported in the Spring edition of Pembury Village News.

On Good Friday the three church congregations assembled once again on the Green in a united service to remember the suffering and crucifixion of Jesus, the Son of God, before his resurrection that we celebrate at Easter.

A litter pick is planned for the summer to be followed by a Community Action Day in the autumn (this is where we make a special effort to help needy villagers in various ways).

We intend to continue and expand the Community Larder for those having difficulties being able to afford to eat (please ask one of the ministers if you need help).

In the summer of 2014 we hope to have another of our Fun Days, as we did in 2012, providing something for villagers of all ages to look forward to.

To show that we can also gather together for united worship we are planning some more special services, including carol singing at Christmas, which we shall advertise nearer the time.

### The Hope Team

## HOPE COMMUNITY LARDER

Thanks to the love from St. Anselm's, St. Peter's and Pembury Baptist Church there is a Pembury Community Larder stocked with donated basic food items. It is available for anyone struggling to afford food in Pembury. The larder is not only available for professional services such as Social Services, Midwives, Health Visitors and school liaison officers but also for self-referrals. Please ring or contact Pembury Baptist Church during office hours 825590 to arrange delivery or collection.

### HOPE Community Action Day

The united congregations of St. Peter's, St. Anselm's and Pembury Baptist Church would like to share God's blessing to those residents of Pembury, who do not have the physical means to keep on top of small jobs such as gardening, ironing, shopping, painting, cleaning. We are setting aside Saturday 12th October 2013 to help out.

If you would like to participate or receive help please contact Helen Nevison at Pembury Baptist Church 825590 or by e-mail [Helen@pemburybaptistchurch.org](mailto:Helen@pemburybaptistchurch.org) before Friday 27th September.

## PEMBURY DAY CENTRE

Pembury Day Centre is one of the jolliest places to be on a Tuesday from 10 - 2pm. It is held at Pembury Baptist Church and is run by the over 60s for the over 60s!

Recently a group of 16 - 20 year olds from the Baptist Church invited Day Centre visitors to a cream tea afternoon with entertainment. A wonderful afternoon enjoying the cakes, answering the quiz and joining in with the live music was had by all.



Pembury Day Centre is planning a spring and summer outing as well as the usual weekly keep-fit, quiz and 2 course home-cooked meal cooked by our very own cooks Peggy Brooks and Betty Fuller.

If you are interested in joining us please contact Helen on 825590.





# PEMBURY PARISH COUNCIL PRESENTS THE ANNUAL PRIDE IN PEMBURY HORTICULTURAL/SCARECROW (new this year) COMPETITION

CATEGORIES ARE:

- BEST FRONT GARDEN (DOMESTIC DWELLINGS ONLY)
- BEST HANGING BASKET/CONTAINER (DOMESTIC DWELLINGS ONLY)
- BEST ALLOTMENT
- BEST COMMERCIAL FRONTAGE (LARGE)
- BEST COMMERCIAL FRONTAGE (SMALL)
- BEST VISUAL EFFECT
- BEST SCARECROW



(SCARECROWS TO BE DISPLAYED FOR JUDGING ON THE GREEN IN FRONT OF ST. PETER'S CHURCH ON AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY WEEKEND)

SEND IN THE FORM BELOW TO THE PARISH OFFICE, LOWER GREEN RECREATION GROUND,  
LOWER GREEN ROAD, PEMBURY, TN2 4DZ

HORTICULTURAL JUDGING WILL TAKE PLACE EARLY AUGUST

CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES FRIDAY 26 JULY 2013

PRIZES AND CERTIFICATES TO BE AWARDED AT THE WINNERS' TEA ON  
22 SEPTEMBER 2013

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Category of Entry (please tick)

- ☐ Best Front Garden (Domestic dwellings only)
- ☐ Best Hanging Basket/Container (Domestic dwellings only)
- ☐ Best Allotment
- ☐ Best Commercial Frontage
- ☐ Best Visual Effect
- ☐ Best Scarecrow

Please complete using BLOCK CAPITALS

Name of Entrant .....

Name of Person nominating entry (if different) .....

Full Address of Entrant .....

.....

The Small Print: The competition is not open to Parish Councillors or Parish Council employees or their close families. Garden entries must be within the boundaries of the Civil parish. Judges will not be permitted to discuss entries and the date of judging will not be published in advance. The judges' decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into. The names of the winners will be published in Pembury Village News and the winner of each category must be willing to participate in a publicity photograph. Entry to the competition is deemed acceptance of these rules.

## AROUND WITH A HOUND

I'm one of the lucky villagers who decided to take a Greyhound into our home. If you look around you'll find they're easily one of the most popular breeds in Pembury.

Since we've had her I've seen a lot more of the village than I would otherwise; it's nice to explore the woods, orchards and fields. You would probably know where to find the Farm Shop but do you know where to find the Donkeys or the Pigs?



We've had our dog Melody for 6 ½ years. She came direct from racing via a rehoming kennel. Don't let the fact they've never been in a family home before put you off. We found this a plus as there were no-one else's ground rules to confuse her. She was easily house-trained (Greyhounds love their food which makes training a breeze). Don't imagine they're dumb though; I took Melody for dog training classes to get her used to other dogs and she achieved her Kennel Club Bronze & Silver awards, and loved the agility equipment enjoying jumps and tunnels.

Days out with the family usually include Mel - while we go to some different places I don't think we miss out. Once you start looking it's possible to take a dog to a surprising number of places.

Their thin fur means mud rarely sticks so goodbye to shampoo & sets and clipping; only a nail clip every few months is needed. As a short-haired breed that wears a coat the smell of damp dog after walkies is almost unknown. Don't make the usual mistake of thinking they are marathon dogs, they're not – they are sprinters and two twenty minute walks are all they need followed by about 23 hours a day upside down on the bed!

I let her off her lead after about 6 months and she's usually fairly good at coming back, although in her younger days she used to chase the squirrels and a bright coat helped me find her standing at the bottom of a tree staring up at one. She's generally good with other breeds particularly once she's off lead and ignores our friends' Shih Tzu around the house and used to play with another friends' miniature Dachshund! She does have staring competitions with our neighbour's cat when it's on the shed looking at her; there are cat-friendly Greyhounds but she's not one of them I'm afraid.

I have to confess she's a little unusual as we've managed to keep her off the furniture, although she does have 3 beds in different rooms of the house (they love to be where you are).

If you're around the Village and see a Greyhound owner they're usually more than happy to chat about the breed so do stop and ask. Sadly many more Greyhounds retire from racing than are re-homed each year so the need for more homes is great, but could that mean a wider choice of dog that's right for you and your home?

Search for 'Greyhounds Kent' online and you'll find the Croftview Retired Greyhound Trust website. They are really happy for visitors to go along and talk to them and take a no obligation walk with one or more of their dogs on a one-off or regular basis. Be warned though we only went a few times before Melody (then called Bertha) stole our hearts.

**Colin Stewart and Melody(!)**



## TEXTUS ROFFENSIS – ‘THE BEGINNING’

You will remember that in the last Parish magazine I mentioned the fact that Pembury Old Church was mentioned in the Textus Roffensis and whilst I had heard this mentioned on several occasions I had no idea what it was. However, with some assistance from the very helpful staff at the Medway Archives I now know.

The Textus Roffensis is a Medieval Manuscript that consists of two separate manuscripts that were written between 1122 and 1124. It is catalogued as; Rochester Cathedral Library, MS A3.5 and was held in the Medway Studies Centre although I think it is now under lock and key at Rochester Cathedral.

It is thought that the main text for both manuscripts was written by a single scribe, although the glosses to a Latin entry were made by a second hand.

A Textus was a book with a decorated cover suitable to be kept in the Church by the high altar. The term does not mean a text concerning Rochester Cathedral. A liber was a less decorated book, suitable only for the Cloister. It is rare that a secular book is a Textus, and the name given to the Textus Roffensis by the Cathedral is considered indicative of the book's importance during the Middle Ages.

The two manuscripts were bound together in around 1300. The first is a collection of documents which includes the law of Aethelberht, attributed to Aethelberht of Kent (c. 560-616), and the 1100 coronation charter of Henry 1st of England.

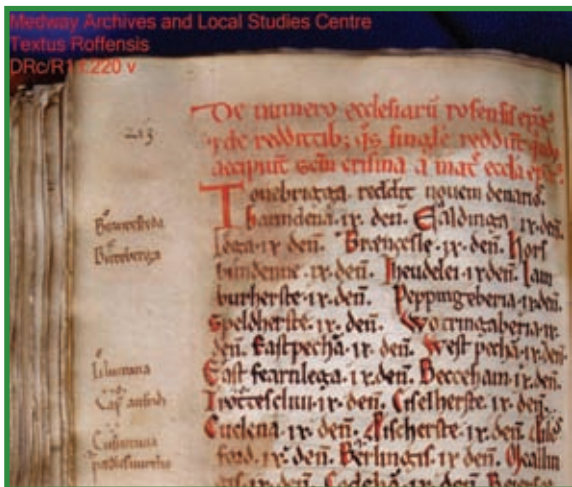
The Law of Aethelberht is the oldest surviving English Law code and the oldest Anglo-Saxon text in existence. The second part of the Textus Roffensis is the oldest of the Rochester Cathedral registers. The entire volume consists of 235 vellum leaves.

Over the centuries the Textus Roffensis has been loaned, lost and recovered on several occasions and has been in the custody of a variety of different people and places. Sometime between 1708 and 1718 the book was immersed for several hours in either the River Thames or the River Medway when the ship transporting it overturned. Water damage is apparent on a number of pages, although not too serious.

Please see the picture of the leather bound documents and also the page that mentions Peppingeberia, i.e. Pembury, eighth line down and possibly Speldhurst next line down. I will try and open more pages and establish what they mean but if any of you can read Latin I would be interested to know what this small sample means. What incredible hand writing.

More on ‘The Beginning’ next time.

**Hugh Boorman**



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## PEMBURY SCOUT GROUP

At last the summer is nearly here so our group will be embarking on camps, fun days out and outside activities. We haven't been idle over the past term though! The Scouts decorated our hall whilst on a sleepover at the Scout and Guide HQ in February; this was part of their DIY badge and they did a really good job! Well done guys!

Penn Cubs had a sleepover too; lighting fires and cooking their own lunch, playing games and going on a hike. Thanks to the kind bus driver who gave us a lift back to the HQ – this got a big cheer from the Cubs who were a bit weary by this time. All enjoyed watching a DVD and having popcorn in the evening to help with settling down to bed for some sleep (or not!).

The Beaver colony has been busy too; visiting St. Peter's Old Church for their Faith Badge. This included reading prayers they had written and ringing the church bells!!

None of this can happen without the invaluable time and energy given by our adult volunteers whether they are leaders or occasional helpers. We have enough young people on the waiting list to open another beaver colony tomorrow if we had leaders to do so. Could you help??? Contact me on [msusherwood@aol.com](mailto:msusherwood@aol.com) if you think you can.

**Michelle Usherwood**  
**Group Scout Leader**



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## BROWNIE HOLIDAY

21 Brownies and 6 adults from 1st Pembury Brownies spent a busy few days at Blackland Farm, the Guide Activity Centre near East Grinstead.



The girls enjoyed trying archery, wall climbing and the crate challenge. The holiday theme of 'Alice in Wonderland' saw them decorating teapots and making top hats – which were later worn at the Mad Hatters Tea Party.

We were lucky with the weather – it was snowing when we packed the cars on Friday morning, but we had no snow while away.

Many thanks to the adults who helped on the holiday.

**Moira Allan, 1st Pembury Brownies**



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## BOWLS CLUB

At last the outdoor bowling season is getting underway, the first two home matches against Bayham and Lamberhurst Bowling Club and Cranbrook Bowling Club took place under blue skies but with a very chilly wind but at least it was dry. Our members come from Pembury and the surrounding area and we are proud to be such a friendly and welcoming club. Our open day would have been held by the time of this publication but if anyone is interested in trying bowls, please do not hesitate to come and speak to anyone at the clubhouse, instruction is freely given.

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## MY SENTIMENTAL JOURNEY

### PEMBURY TO AND FROM AUSTRALIA

ANTHONY RAYMOND MAKER

‘A PATH LESS TRAVELLED’

My story began when my parents Cecil Sidney Maker and Joan Lillian King met in Tunbridge Wells sometime in 1943 while my father was stationed in Kent in preparation for the D Day invasion. My mother was a ladies companion from 1934 to 1939 in Hawkhurst and spent time in Matfield, Brenchley and surrounds and was a ward orderly at the old Pembury Hospital from 1939 to 1945, any memories? My father prior to the war was in the merchant navy as a cabin boy on the blue star liner S.S. Andalucía Star. The liner was sunk in 1942. They married on the 1st June 1944 at Pembury Old Church (see photo) and I arrived late 1945. I was born in the Tunbridge Wells Maternity Home and the family lived at 8 Alpine Place, Lower Green, Pembury



during the late 1940s with my mother's adopted parents Frank and Joan King. My grandfather worked as the gatekeeper and switchboard operator at the old Pembury hospital, any memories? In late 1949 my parents moved to 33 Victoria Crescent, Upper Norwood, London. My father had various jobs after the war assisting with the rebuilding and also working in his father's Pub 'The Bunch of Grapes' somewhere near London but location unknown? During this time the Victorian Railways in Australia were advertising in England for employees to work on the electrification of their rail network. My father was successful in obtaining a position as a H.T. linesman which included a rentable new railway house. In September 1950 the family including myself and younger brother Terry emigrated on the P&O liner S.S. Asturias to the suburb of Sunshine about 7 miles west of Melbourne in Victoria, Australia. We became what were known as the 'ten pound poms' as the trip was subsidised by the Australian Government. Sunshine was hot and dry with unmade roads, no sewerage or drainage. The 'dunny man' would pick up the dunny cans of sewerage weekly and any wastewater from sinks, baths etc. was drained to a trench dug alongside the road which was inevitably full of all sorts of waste and rubbish with the eagerly waiting red worms waiting for their next feed. The bread was delivered in a horse and cart and the 'iceman' would deliver the blocks of ice for our ice chest every few days. My mother – an 'English Rose' found the conditions very harsh and became very distressed and longed to return to the green fields, orchards, primroses and bluebells of her beloved Pembury while my father enjoyed the 'wild west' conditions. As children, my brother and I didn't know any better and it was one great adventure to us. The wildlife was plentiful - the place was full of snakes, kangaroos and flies. It was not uncommon to come across many snakes in our back garden and I was once bitten on the leg and survived. The tiger, brown and black snakes were the most common and all extremely deadly and aggressive when provoked. (The photo shows my father holding the dead Tiger snake which bit me!)



During the mid 1950s my parents purchased their own house in Sunshine. My mother worked as a post mistress delivering the daily mail on a bicycle. During my early school years, Sunshine was like a 'United Nations' with many post war immigrants from Western Europe including Italians, Greeks, Maltese and Germans. This created a lot of tension due to the outcome of the War. By default I became the gang leader of the English which also included the local Australians and many battles were fought with the 'rest'. There were no guns or knives in those days, just a lot of bravado and fisticuffs. During the late 50s sewerage and drainage were installed alongside made roads which sadly meant the demise of the horse and cart and the 'iceman'.

I went to Sunshine High School for my secondary education however, in late 1960 while in Year 3 my mother who at this stage was diagnosed with depression due to her longing to return to Kent received her wish and the family moved back to Pembury on the Italian liner 'Castel Felice'.

Wow! What a change in lifestyles for my brother and me. We lived temporarily at 11 Stone Court Lane, Lower Green, Pembury with my mother's parents who had moved from Alpine Place during our absence. I went to Paddock Wood Secondary Modern School for about 15 months and I remember not enjoying the experience of going to school in the dark and arriving home on the school bus also in the dark. The school curriculum was completely different and at another level. There was one bright spot however, I met a girl called Pat Smith who lived at 'Clive', Thorn Road, Marden, Kent, and I wonder if she is still around?

Most weekends my brother and I would wander all around Pembury including the 'Woods' at the bottom of Stone Court Lane and were introduced quickly to 'scrumping'. I still remember the beautiful Victoria plums and apples and being chased by the farmers. I also visited the Pembury Old Church and the Water Works to climb the large trees where the black crows were nesting. I remember walking to the village of Capel with my brother a few times always on the look out for our next adventure.

In 1962 aged 16 the family again moved this time to Canterbury in Kent where I attended The Archbishops Secondary Modern School. I was in Year 6 and again I felt out of place due to the different levels of schooling. Looking back my schooling in England was a disaster and I would not recommend anyone moving schools or countries once they reach secondary level. We enjoyed living in Canterbury and our adventures continued. Now as experienced 'scrumpers' we had a field day with potatoes, strawberries and other soft fruits.

By late 1962 the family had moved again to South Norwood, London and my father decided it was not appropriate for me to continue with my secondary education which meant I never did complete my O' levels. My application to the British Post Office for a position as a 'Youth in Training' was accepted and this was actually a prerequisite to being a Telephone Technician.

It wasn't too long when my father again decided it was time to immigrate back to Australia much to my mother's disappointment and disgust. After 5 weeks at sea on the P&O liner 'Fairsea' we arrived in Melbourne in late 1963. Regretfully I was not able to join the Australian Post office due to my age however, with my father rejoining the Victorian Railways I was able to obtain an apprenticeship with the Telephone & Telegraphic section as an apprentice telephone technician. So here I was back in Australia neither an Aussie nor a Pom!! but physiologically shattered knowing I wanted to do better with my life other than a career on the railways. During my 5 year apprenticeship I commenced external studies to attempt an electrical engineering degree. After 7 years on the railways and working shift work as a qualified Communication Technician I left and commenced a career path with various international companies in senior managerial roles.

Over the ensuing years I successfully completed my degree in electrical engineering after 12 years of part time study. I purchased my own home, married and had three daughters. I travelled all over the world and Australia during my working career which unfortunately had a detrimental effect on my family and sadly I, like many others, experienced divorce.

My partner Carolyn and I now live on the Sunshine Coast in Queensland where it is very hot and humid in the summer however, the beautiful beaches are amazing - although a far cry from life in Pembury.

We both love to travel and in 2010 with both my parents now deceased, we scattered their ashes in the Old Pembury Churchyard. During this trip to Europe in 2010 we were also able to visit the beaches of Normandy to trace my father's journey from Gold Beach via Arromanches, Caen, through Belgium and Holland which I am sure he would be proud of.

Most recently during the 2012 Christmas period I again visited family in Tunbridge Wells and Pembury to experience a white Christmas; alas it did not snow however, the experience of the winter was wonderful. I spent Christmas Eve in the local village church – 'what a wonderful experience'. I also visited the Pembury Old Church, the Camden Arms and other local Pembury landmarks.

I dedicate this brief episode of my life's journey to my children, my partner Carolyn and to my aunty Mrs Lilly Marsden of Tonbridge. A special mention to the senior retail assistant at Notcutts garden centre Tunbridge Wells who encouraged me on my recent visit 2012/13 to write this story.

**"A LIFE STILL SEEKING THE PATH LESS TRAVELLED"**

We will be back again in April/May 2014 when we will visit our family once again and if anyone would like to make contact with me regarding any information or if you knew my mother Joan Lillian King in the 1930s, 40s and 60s or my grandmother a Sarah Moore from Nottingham please contact me via email [tonymaker45@hotmail.com](mailto:tonymaker45@hotmail.com).

**Tony Maker**  
**Australia**



*My late father and me in 2009*

## GEORGE BLACKSTOCK

You may well ask, 'Who is George Blackstock?' His name is not one that comes to mind as being associated with Pembury but the attached photo was recently sent to the parish council with an enquiry about him, which led to my research. Initially all that was known for sure was that he died here in 1946, is buried in the graveyard behind the school with his wife Mary who died in 1936 and they lived at Altnabreac in the High Street from the early 1920s. We know this building as Sunhill Place.

However, after his death the following item appeared in The Courier:

'At a meeting of the Parish Council Mr A A Hobbs (Chairman) made feeling reference to the death of Mr G Blackstock who since coming to Pembury 20 years ago had been a great benefactor to the parish and had taken a keen interest in all local activities. Mr Hobbs alluded particularly to the financial help given by Mr Blackstock towards the layout of the Recreation Ground, the provision of gates etc. It was decided to place on record the deep sense of loss felt in the parish by Mr Blackstock's death.'

Clearly he was well respected in the village, but why and what was his background? Everything that follows I have found by browsing free websites on the internet.

George was born in Dunbartonshire in 1862 and I traced his early life through the census records. In 1871 his father's occupation is given as 'ship joiner'. By 1881 George was a 'commercial clerk (apprentice)' and ten years on he is still single and living with his parents but now he is an 'East India Merchant'. The 1901 census, however, finds him at a hotel in Torquay with his wife Mary, also a Scot. Were they on honeymoon, or just on holiday before embarking for the Far East? He is now described as an 'Importer of English goods (Merchant)'.

George and Mary sailed from Liverpool for Rangoon in September 1901 and returned to the UK from there in May 1920. I can find nothing about his life in Rangoon except what is revealed in the



photo which describes him as Major, RVA [Rangoon Volunteer Auxiliary Corps]. It does indicate that he took an active part in colonial life there and his death notice in The Courier in 1946 described him as 'late of Rangoon'. Why they retired to Pembury is a mystery.

George seems to have made his fortune while in Rangoon as he returned to the UK a very rich man. Not only was his house in Pembury a substantial dwelling, but when he died in 1946 his estate amounted to £416,645, which was a huge amount for those days. Probate was granted to The Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China. No mention is made of any children.

His philanthropy seems to have been modest, but well placed. The new Pembury Recreation Ground was not the only project to attract his attention. We know he left £500 to St Andrews Presbyterian Church in Tunbridge Wells, where his funeral service was held before interment in Pembury, and his name is one of those listed in the Times in January 1939 as having given £5/5/- to Lord Baldwin's fund for refugees.

Over the years the perceived understanding in Pembury was that George Blackstock gave the recreation ground to the village, but this soon proved to be wrong and his pecuniary contribution was much more modest. However, he, together with several other villagers, gave valuable contributions towards the cost of setting up the Recreation Ground after the Parish Council bought the larger part of High Gee Meadow for the village in July 1932. I will expand on this in the next PVN.



## PEMBURY EVENING WI

We are very lucky in Pembury to have two WIs, one taking place in the afternoon, and the other in the evening.

Pembury Evening WI was founded in 1964 for those women who had family commitments and could not make an afternoon meeting.

We have over 40 members but are always looking for new people. We invite you to come along as a guest initially to see if you like us enough to want to join. We have a varied programme of events and meetings, with interesting speakers covering numerous subjects. You don't have to be able to make jam or cakes as we have many other avenues for you to explore.

We enjoy trips to the English National Opera, the Assembly Hall in Tunbridge Wells, picnics and plays at Hever Castle, and social lunches and afternoon teas, plus monthly craft evenings. We also like to support local activities in Pembury and our adjoining villages.



We came 1st in the Matfield Show with our Jubilee celebration exhibit



One of our tea and natter sessions at the home of one of our members

Our meetings take place in Pembury Village Hall on the first Friday of the month, commencing at 7.45pm. Do come along, you will be made most welcome. For further information please contact our President Angela Saunders (Tel: 01892 822307) or our Secretary Jane Jones (Tel: 01892 823601).

## HOSPICE IN THE WEALD – MOONLIGHT CATWALK

Hospice in the Weald Moonlight Catwalk is one of the highlights in our events calendar and takes place this year on Friday 14 June. The 8 mile circular route around Tunbridge Wells provides you with the chance to join others in your bright pink t-shirts, grabbing your glow sticks and get together with friends whilst raising valuable funds for Hospice in the Weald.

Whether you are joining us for the first time or are a seasoned Moonlight Walker the night will be one of laughter, camaraderie and fun all in aid of your local Hospice. Whether you are looking to do something different with friends or are joining us to remember loved ones the night guarantees to be one to remember.

The Moonlight Catwalk has raised over £300,000 in the past 5 years – a magnificent amount of money and vital income to Hospice in the Weald, enabling us to continue to care for patients, carers, and families in the local community.



Every penny raised this year will make a huge difference to the Hospice. If each of our walkers raises £50 this year it would be enough to fund our Day Therapy Centre for 2 months.

Join us again this year with our brand new route, starting and finishing at the Nevill Cricket Ground, on Friday 14th June at 10pm.

**See you there!**

## RECIPES

### Courgette, Tomato and Basil Tart

250g/9oz ready-made shortcrust pastry  
2 courgettes - sliced diagonally  
1 tbsp. olive oil  
300g/12oz cooked new potatoes, sliced  
100g/4oz gruyere cheese – grated  
Handful of basil leaves

3 eggs  
200ml crème fraîche  
¼ pt milk  
4 tbsp grated parmesan  
1lb tomatoes – sliced



1. Heat oven to 200°C/ fan 180°C/ gas 6. Roll out pastry and line a 20-23cm deepish loose-bottom tin – trim excess pastry and chill for 20 mins;
2. Line pastry case with greaseproof paper, fill with baking beans. Bake for 15 mins. Remove paper and beans and bake for a further 5 mins;
3. Toss the courgette slices in oil and fry until lightly browned on both sides. Remove to cool. Layer half the potatoes, courgettes and tomatoes in the pastry case and season. Sprinkle with a little gruyere and basil leaves. Repeat, ending with a tomato layer;
4. Beat the eggs, crème fraîche and milk together and season. Stir in the remaining gruyere and half the parmesan. Pour over the filling and sprinkle with the remaining parmesan;
5. Bake for 35-40 mins until firm to touch. Scatter on rest of basil. Cool for 10 mins and serve.



### Strawberry Ice Cream

½ lb strawberries  
3oz icing sugar  
Squeeze of lemon juice

¼ pt double cream  
¼ pt single cream  
6-8 strawberries to garnish

1. Put the strawberries, icing sugar and lemon juice in a liquidiser and puree;
2. Whisk the two creams together until thick (but not stiff). Blend into the strawberry puree;
3. Spoon the strawberry mixture into a plastic container and leave to freeze for about 12 hours;
4. Remove the container 1-2 hours before serving and thaw slightly in the fridge;
5. Scoop the ice cream into individual glasses and decorate with fresh strawberries.

**Karol Young**



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## NEW BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP IN PEMBURY

A new **Friends Together Bereavement Support Lunch Group** has begun in Pembury. The group meets for a light lunch at Pembury Pavilion in the Recreation Ground on the third Monday of each month. No charge is made for the lunch but donations are requested.

**Friends Together** is a bereavement support network, with groups who meet monthly for lunch, operating in the Tunbridge Wells/Tonbridge area. This is not a counselling group but aimed at supporting those who are bereaved through the difficult days, weeks, months and even years following their loss.

If you are recently bereaved and finding it difficult to cope, if you would like to meet socially with other bereaved people who will understand how you feel, please do come. Although of course no-one would be turned away if they just turned up on the day, it would be very helpful to have an idea of numbers in order to assist with catering.

**The lunch dates for the next few months are: 17th June; 15th July; 19th August and 16th September.**

For more information please contact Pamela Vale-Taylor on pvt2011@hotmail.co.uk or 07544683416. We look forwarding to welcoming you.

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## POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICER

As a Police Community Support Officer, I regularly work alongside other agencies and local residents within the Tunbridge Wells district, including housing organisations, trading standards, schools, Pembury Parish Council, Tunbridge Wells Borough Council and Kent County Council, along with many more. This multi-agency approach helps tackle issues such as anti-social behaviour, abandoned vehicles and welfare issues, combined with support from local residents, crime in Pembury continues to be low.

I regularly hold community engagement events. Join me on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> or 25<sup>th</sup> June, at Pembury Village Hall, between 10.30am and 11.30am. I will be on hand to offer advice on any local concerns or issues.

With the days getting longer and the weather warmer, please consider the following crime prevention advice to help keep your home and valuables safe:

- Close and lock windows and doors.
- Keep keys and valuables out of sight, away from doors and windows.
- Watch out for bogus callers and always ask for identification if an unexpected caller comes to your home. If you are unsure, don't let them in and report it to the police straight away.
- Lock sheds, garages and garden gates. Put away tools and equipment after use.
- Security mark valuable items using a UV pen or forensic solution.

For more crime prevention advice visit **[www.kent.police.uk/staysafe](http://www.kent.police.uk/staysafe)**

I often spot items of value left in vehicles. This is an easy target for thieves and I would encourage residents to take more care of their property to reduce the risk of becoming a victim of vehicle crime:

- Remove all valuables including portable sat nav systems, mobile phones and laptops. Lock your vehicle, even if you're only away for a few minutes.
- Clean suction marks from your windscreen if using a portable sat nav, these show a potential thief that it might still be inside.
- Don't hide valuables in the boot or glove compartment, as these are the first places a thief will look.
- Thieves steal number plates to use in other crimes; you can fit tamper-proof number plate screws to help prevent this.

Our Your Guide information leaflets provide practical information on staying safe and crime prevention and are free to download at **[www.kent.police.uk/yourguide](http://www.kent.police.uk/yourguide)**

For the latest news about policing in your district, sent straight to your inbox, sign up for our e newsletters at [www.kent.police.uk/enews](http://www.kent.police.uk/enews) and follow us on facebook or via the Tunbridge Wells twitter account @kentpolicetwells

## HOSPICE IN THE WEALD OFFERING 15 APPRENTICESHIPS!

Join our award winning team – and help make a BIG difference!

We recognise that as a charity rooted in this community we need to do our bit to help young people. In 2011 HitW took on 5 apprentices, and our scheme was awarded the prestigious Kent Excellence in Business Award (Keiba) for Apprenticeship of the Year for our commitment shown to enhancing our apprentices' careers, giving them the opportunity to gain work experience whilst building skills for the future. This year we are recruiting 15 exciting positions throughout the organisation to start in July 2013. Half of them are in our Charity shops and retail department and the others in administration roles across the organisation. If you are reading this and a little older than the 16 to 24 year olds we can take on this Apprenticeship Scheme, then do let anyone you think might be interested know about it.

Apprenticeships provide an opportunity for young people who want to earn while they learn. In partnership with our training provider, our year-long scheme will give you plenty of relevant experience, and will also provide you with the support you need to gain your level 2 Business Administration apprenticeship.

For further information and an application pack please contact Jemma Clements on 01892 850 546 [jemma.clements@hospiceintheweald.org.uk](mailto:jemma.clements@hospiceintheweald.org.uk)

## CRIME REPORT

Doesn't time fly - nearly halfway through the year already and what with the long drawn-out winter we're due for a change in the weather. Unfortunately our weather does not influence the criminal activities around the Village. Our overall figure for the previous quarter was 56 with a reduction of one to 55 for the last quarter, i.e., Jan, Feb and March and whilst any reduction is welcome one is nowhere near enough.



We keep getting reports in newspapers of the dramatic reduction on a national basis of the overall crime figures and yet this week 12th April 2013 our local papers report a dramatic increase in crime activity.

If we look at the latest figures for reported crime the Crime Type of violent crime shows a reduction of 25% from 20 down to 15; it looks good but violent crime in Pembury was unheard of a few years ago. Theft offences - excluding vehicles remain the same at thirteen. My only comment is, please be careful what you leave on display in your car, in your house and garden and don't leave yourselves vulnerable to these leeches.

Following the comments made regarding dog fouling around the Village in the last issue of the Village News there has been an improvement but there is a sad situation with a few dog walkers who do pick up their dog litter but then deposit the bag in someone's garden or by public footpaths. We are also watching out for a very regular dog

walker who allows her dog to frequently foul on the path along the Hastings Road. Please remember that TWBC enforcement officers can issue a fine of £80. If this is not paid and it goes to court, a maximum fine of £1000 is likely. To all the dog walkers who accept their responsibilities as dog owners, a very big thank you.

Let us continue to support the Police in every way that we can, bearing in mind they are our only means of defence other than taking the law into our own hands.



**Hugh Boorman**

# CRIME FIGURES



Corporate Development  
Business Information Unit

## Recorded crime in Pembury

If a road name does not appear in the table below, it is because no crimes have been reported to Kent Police in that road during the specified period

| Crime type by reported month | Violent Crime | Burglary Dwelling | Burglary Other | Theft From Motor Vehicle | Criminal Damage Offences | Theft Offences (exc vehicle offences) | Drug Offences | Fraud & Forgery | Total recorded crime |
|------------------------------|---------------|-------------------|----------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| January 13                   | 8             | 0                 | 2              | 1                        | 2                        | 4                                     | 3             | 1               | 21                   |
| February 13                  | 2             | 2                 | 3              | 0                        | 1                        | 6                                     | 0             | 2               | 16                   |
| March 13                     | 5             | 0                 | 1              | 2                        | 5                        | 3                                     | 0             | 2               | 18                   |
| January - March 2013         | 15            | 2                 | 6              | 3                        | 8                        | 13                                    | 3             | 5               | 55                   |

| Crime type by road name | Violent Crime | Burglary Dwelling | Burglary Other | Theft From Motor Vehicle | Criminal Damage Offences | Theft Offences (exc vehicle offences) | Drug Offences | Fraud & Forgery | Total recorded crime |
|-------------------------|---------------|-------------------|----------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| AMBERLEAZE DRIVE        | 0             |                   |                | 0                        | 0                        | 1                                     | 0             | 0               | 2                    |
| BEAGLES WOOD ROAD       | 0             |                   |                | 0                        | 1                        | 0                                     | 1             | 1               | 3                    |
| BELLFIELD ROAD          | 2             |                   |                | 0                        | 0                        | 1                                     | 2             | 0               | 5                    |
| BRICKFIELDS             | 2             |                   |                | 0                        | 0                        | 0                                     | 0             | 0               | 2                    |
| CHALKET LANE            | 0             |                   |                | 0                        | 2                        | 0                                     | 0             | 0               | 2                    |
| CHURCH ROAD             | 0             |                   |                | 0                        | 0                        | 0                                     | 0             | 1               | 1                    |
| ELMHURST AVENUE         | 0             |                   |                | 0                        | 1                        | 0                                     | 0             | 0               | 1                    |
| HASTINGS ROAD           | 1             |                   |                | 2                        | 1                        | 0                                     | 0             | 0               | 4                    |
| HENWOOD GREEN ROAD      | 0             |                   |                | 0                        | 0                        | 0                                     | 0             | 0               | 2                    |
| HENWOODS MOUNT          | 1             |                   |                | 0                        | 0                        | 1                                     | 0             | 0               | 2                    |
| HIGHFIELD CLOSE         | 0             |                   |                | 0                        | 1                        | 0                                     | 0             | 0               | 1                    |
| HIGH STREET             | 0             |                   |                | 0                        | 0                        | 2                                     | 0             | 1               | 3                    |
| LOWER GREEN ROAD        | 0             |                   |                | 0                        | 0                        | 0                                     | 0             | 0               | 1                    |
| MAIDSTONE ROAD          | 1             |                   |                | 0                        | 0                        | 0                                     | 0             | 0               | 2                    |
| OLD CHURCH ROAD         | 0             |                   |                | 1                        | 0                        | 1                                     | 0             | 0               | 2                    |
| PEMBURY ROAD            | 1             |                   |                | 0                        | 0                        | 2                                     | 0             | 2               | 7                    |
| RIDGEWAY                | 1             |                   |                | 0                        | 0                        | 0                                     | 0             | 0               | 1                    |
| ROMFORD ROAD            | 0             |                   |                | 0                        | 0                        | 0                                     | 0             | 0               | 1                    |
| SNIPE CLOSE             | 0             |                   |                | 0                        | 0                        | 1                                     | 0             | 0               | 1                    |
| THE GLEBE               | 1             |                   |                | 0                        | 1                        | 0                                     | 0             | 0               | 2                    |
| TONBRIDGE ROAD          | 4             |                   |                | 0                        | 1                        | 4                                     | 0             | 0               | 9                    |
| WESTWAY                 | 1             |                   |                | 0                        | 0                        | 0                                     | 0             | 0               | 1                    |
| TOTAL RECORDED CRIME    | 15            | 2                 | 6              | 3                        | 8                        | 13                                    | 3             | 5               | 55                   |

The data above was extracted from Kent Police's LIVE crime recording system GENESIS on 2nd January 2013 at 09:00 hrs, and is therefore subject to change



## BAPTIST, PHILANTHROPIST AND ENTREPRENEUR

These words under his bust at Norwich Railway Station sum up a remarkable man who is buried at Pembury Old Church. He was responsible for the construction of the Houses of Parliament, Nelson's Column and at least one-seventh of Britain's railways – and Pembury Baptist Church.

Samuel Morton Peto was born on August 4th 1809 in Woking. In 1830, he went into partnership with Thomas Grissell, a constructor and builder, after serving 7 years' apprenticeship with his uncle, Henry Peto. In 1831 he married Thomas's eldest sister Mary and they had five children.

In 1834 after the Houses of Parliament were destroyed by fire, Grissell and Peto were given the contract to rebuild. The firm erected many London buildings including the Reform Club and the Lyceum and St. James's theatres. In 1839 they won the contract to demolish buildings and evacuate the ground to create Trafalgar Square and the Column. They were also responsible for the Royal Stables at Windsor Castle and the south entrance to the British Museum, before building Pentonville Prison in 1842. They also built canals and the first shopping mall in Britain – Hungerford Market at Charing Cross.

After Mary's death in 1842, he married Sarah Kelsall in July 1843 and Peto became a Baptist.

In 1884 Peto and his wife retired to Blackhurst, Halls Hole Road, Tunbridge Wells. Despite being a Baptist, for personal reasons he chose to attend Mount Pleasant Congregational Church. He was a friend of John T. Betts, a wealthy translator who lived at 'Sunnyside' on the Green in Pembury. The House is now known as No.5 Gates House. Betts was a member of the Pembury Free Church and he invited Peto to become a Trustee in 1885. A new Church was needed as the old one showed signs of decay, and the roof eventually collapsed. Peto gave £50 to the building fund and secured many donations. G & F Penn, local builders were appointed constructors. The new Church opened on 19th July 1887.

After returning from Cannes in 1888 he became ill and died at his home on 13th November 1889. He was buried in Pembury Old Churchyard. His wife remained at Blackhurst until her death in 1892. They share a large grave to the east of the south porch. Peto was a prominent non-conformist and, as an M.P. was responsible for passing an Act to allow non-conformist ministers to bury anyone in a churchyard and, it is said, he was the first person to be buried under this Act. The Lychgate of the Old Church was erected in his memory by his widow and children. There are brass plaques to Peto and John T. Betts in the Baptist Church, where the latter is buried in the small graveyard.



**Richard Snow**

## FOR YOUR DIARY

For more up to date information on events see the online diary at [www.pembury.org](http://www.pembury.org).

Village Market – Village Hall, Tuesdays 9am – 11.30am, term time only.

Town & Country Housing Group – Clinic – last Tuesday in the month.

CAB – Pembury Library – alternate Tuesdays 9.30am – 11.30am.

For more up to date information on events see the online diary at [www.pembury.org](http://www.pembury.org).

### JUNE 2013

|      |                                |                    |   |
|------|--------------------------------|--------------------|---|
| 3rd  | Floral Art Group               | 8.00pm             | Baptist Church Hall   |
| 4th  | Pembury U3A                    | 8.00pm             | Pembury Village Hall  |
| 5th  | St. Peter's Mothers' Union     | 8.00pm             | Kent to Lincoln. Meeting Room   |
| 7th  | Evening WI                     | 7.45pm             | Talk on Bedgebury Pinetum (Village Hall)  |
| 8th  | St. Anselm's Activity Event    | 8.00pm             | St. Anselm's Catholic Church  |
| 13th | Afternoon WI                   | 2.00pm             | Tunbridge Wells Town Dipper   |
| 15th | Picnic on the Green            | 5.00pm/<br>9.00pm  | Village Green - Hog Roast/Ice Cream<br>Bring your own drinks. Music Entertainment |
| 17th | Pembury Parish Council Meeting | 8.00pm             | Parish Council Office   |
| 21st | Pembury Players                | 7.00pm             | Two one-act plays - Pembury Village Hall  |
| 22nd | Pembury Players                | 7.00pm             | Two one-act plays - Horsmonden Village Hall                                       |
| 22nd | Pembury School Summer Fair     | 11.30pm/<br>2.30pm | Pembury Primary School  |
| 29th | Folk Music with Hard Rock      | 7.30pm             | St. Peter's Upper Church  |
| 29th | Pembury Gardeners'             | 2.00pm             | Summer Show – Village Hall  |

### JULY 2013

|      |                                |         |                                     |
|------|--------------------------------|---------|-------------------------------------|
| 1st  | Floral Art Group               | 8.00pm  | Baptist Church Hall                 |
| 2nd  | Pembury U3A                    | 2.00pm  | Pembury Village Hall                |
| 3rd  | St. Peter's Mothers' Union     | 8.00pm  | Planning Evening – Summer Lunch tbc |
| 5th  | Evening WI                     | 7.45pm  | 'The Mafia and I' by Ann Chance     |
| 6th  | Pembury Footpath Walkers       | 2.15pm  | Meet at Camden Arms                 |
| 7th  | St. Anselm's Summer BBQ        | 12.30pm | St. Anselm's Catholic Church        |
| 11th | Afternoon WI                   | 2.00pm  | Guide Dog & Puppy Walker            |
| 15th | Pembury Parish Council Meeting | 8.00pm  | Parish Council Office               |

### AUGUST 2013

|     |                            |        |                                    |
|-----|----------------------------|--------|------------------------------------|
| 2nd | Evening WI                 | 7.45pm | Visit to Glazy Daizy Craft Studio  |
| 3rd | Pembury Footpath Walkers   | 2.15pm | Meet at Stonecourt Lane bus stop   |
| 5th | Floral Art Group           | 8.00pm | Baptist Church Hall                |
| 7th | St. Peter's Mothers' Union | 2.00pm | Garden Party – 2a Lower Green Road |
| 8th | Afternoon WI               | 2.00pm | Members' Meeting                   |

### SEPTEMBER 2013

|      |                               |                  |                                 |
|------|-------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------|
| 2nd  | Floral Art Group              | 8.00pm           | Baptist Church Hall             |
| 3rd  | Pembury U3A                   | 2.00pm           | Village Hall – Signing on event |
| 6th  | Evening WI                    | 7.45pm           | 50 Ways to Tie a Scarf          |
| 7th  | Friends of Pembury Old Church | 10.00am/<br>Noon | Coffee on the Green             |
| 7th  | Pembury Footpath Walkers      | 2.15pm           | Meet at Bo-Peep Corner          |
| 8th  | Pembury Gardeners             | 2.00pm           | Autumn Show – Village Hall      |
| 12th | Afternoon WI                  | 2.00pm           | St. John Ambulance Service      |

## PALM OIL

It is time for my weekly shopping and my list includes items we all need. Besides fruits, vegetables and meat, there are things like bread, breadspread, chocolate, toothpaste and detergent. Unfortunately, what is not very well known is that all of these products may contain palm oil.

Palm oil is common in about 50% of the products we buy. The percentage of palm oil in the individual products may be very small, but it is the wide range of products which contain palm oil that is leading to a demand of approximately 50 million tonnes per year.

Unfortunately, it is not necessarily obvious that palm oil is an ingredient in products. There are many different terms which are used for palm oil. On food products it is most commonly called 'Vegetable Oil' but it could also be for example canola oil, olive oil or rapeseed oil. It should make you wonder however when you find on some olive oil products that they contain olive oil plus vegetable oil.

You may ask what concern is palm oil to us, here in Pembury. Well, for a start it is a highly saturated fat which is not the healthiest option. Furthermore, our consumption of products with palm oil has an impact on forest areas in Malaysia and Indonesia. The vanishing forest means loss of habitat for many wildlife species like the Sumatran tiger.

Besides the loss of habitat for wildlife and plant species, there are other environmental consequences when rainforest areas are cleared. An intact natural system is regulating itself and also our climate. This does not only include the temperatures, but also rainfall for example. The loss of forest will obviously have an impact on the area itself but may go much further than we recognise at the moment. I am not a scientist, but the increase in floods around the world make me wonder whether this may have something to do with the changes, we (the humans) inflict on nature.

So, why is palm oil so popular to justify the impact on our natural system and the future of critically endangered wildlife and plant species?

There are mainly two reasons for this. From an end-user perspective the high saturated fat provides products with a creamy texture. For this reason manufacturers prefer to use palm oil compared to other vegetable oils. Furthermore, the oil palm fruit tree is a highly productive plant which provides more oil per hectare than any other oil-producing crop.

The next question is: How can we make a difference and change the future for wildlife and plant species in Indonesia and Malaysia?

I think an increased awareness and knowledge about palm oil containing products will help us to avoid these or at least to buy products which have been based on sustainable palm oil (coming from plantations which have not been cleared of forest in the recent past).

Various web pages provide information on palm oil free products, e.g. Ethical Consumer ([www.ethicalconsumer.org/shoppingethically/palmoilfreelist.aspx](http://www.ethicalconsumer.org/shoppingethically/palmoilfreelist.aspx)) or Say No To Palm Oil ([www.saynotopalmoil.com/palm-oil.php](http://www.saynotopalmoil.com/palm-oil.php)). Alternatively, there is information available on sustainable palm oil, e.g. via [www.sustainablepalmoil.org/](http://www.sustainablepalmoil.org/).

In view of palm oil free options, it is also worth visiting your local farmers market where you may find for example handmade soap and might be able to examine the ingredients.

I hope that this article will help people to be more aware of where palm oil is used, and how they can make product decisions with less impact on our natural world.

**Barbara Meyer**



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## PEMBURY GARDENERS SOCIETY

The Pembury Gardeners Society held its Spring Show on Saturday 30th March at the Village Hall, Pembury.

The quality of the exhibits was of a good standard considering the difficult growing conditions. We considered ourselves lucky as other societies had to cancel their shows due to lack of entries after all the freezing snow, rain and frosts we have all recently endured.

The entries in the daffodil classes were slightly down on last year which was expected, but the increased entries in the other classes more than made up for the loss.

The cookery, floral art and novice floral art entries were way up on last year. We now allow floral art novices to enter three shows as novices.

The trophies winners were as follows:

The Hextable Cup for most points ~ Steve Jones;

The Daffodil Medal for Best Exhibit ~ Derek Parks;

The Daffodil Certificate ~ Brian Fryer;

The Kent Federation Certificate for Best Blooms ~ Derek Parks and Mrs L Carr;

### **Floral Art**

The Doris Downs Cup ~ Mrs B Penfold;

Certificate for Best Exhibit ~ Mrs B Penfold;

### **Cookery**

Society Cup for most points ~ Mrs. C. Riley;

Kent Federation Certificate Runner Up to Cup Winner ~ Mrs H Wood;

### **Handicraft**

The Michael Pavely Memorial Cup for Best Exhibit ~ Mrs R Dewdney;

Junior Certificate ~ Imogen Riley.



We look forward to seeing you at our Summer Show which will take place on June 29th at the Village Hall. The Summer Show Schedules are available from the Show Secretary on Pembury 824877.

**John Wood**

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## ST. PETER'S PEMBURY MOTHERS' UNION

Our Branch Leader, Mary Adams, has come to the end of her term of office and members showed their appreciation of her service by presenting her with a rhododendron. Tina Walters has been elected as the next Branch Leader. Tina has been a Mothers' Union Member for over twenty years and has previously been Branch Leader at St. John's, Tunbridge Wells, a Deanery Chairman and a Diocesan Trustee.

She takes over the running of a Branch with twenty-two members, which includes men and women, married, single and divorced. All are Christians but not all are members of the Church of England. We are part of a worldwide organisation working through four million members in 83 countries to fight poverty, injustice and to tackle family issues. As a grassroots community based organisation, members see and experience the impact of social injustice upon relationships and family life. We will seek justice in our communities for the family and in relationships. This may be through our campaigning, such as our stance against the inappropriate commercialisation and sexualisation of childhood, or it may be through our activities, where we seek to enable communities to identify those issues that adversely affect healthy, flourishing and respectful relationships, and then engage in finding appropriate and effective solutions to those issues.

In our Branch we actively support all baptisms and we are represented in most church based activities. Our cake stall at last year's Pembury Fun Day raised £50 which was sent to the Emergency Relief Fund, we also sent £150 for Mothers' Union Overseas work and we collected over £200 for the Make a Mother's Day Appeal this year. What we try to do is what our God requires of us: "Love mercy, seek justice and walk humbly with our God" (Micah 6:8).

# YOUR REPRESENTATIVES

## PARISH COUNCIL



**Cllr Mrs June Crowhurst**  
44 Elmhurst Avenue, TN2 4DA  
Tel: 824873  
Chair of Parish Council  
*Chair of Amenities, Christmas Lights and Pride in Pembury (inc. Public Relations) Working Group*



**Cllr Mrs Sally Osborn**  
34 Canterbury Road, TN2 4JT  
Tel: 822726



**Cllr Sean Cawley**  
c/o Henry Paul Funerals  
10 High Street, TN2 4NY  
Tel: 825505  
*Chair of Environment/Environmental Issues (inc. Allotments & Burials) Working Group*



**Cllr David Coleman**  
22 Ridgeway, TN2 4ER  
Tel: 823402  
Vice Chair of Parish Council  
*Chair of Planning & Highways Working Group*



**Cllr Mrs Janet Ditchett**  
7 Cornford Park, TN2 4PW  
Tel: 822586  
*Vice Chair of Amenities, Christmas Lights and Pride in Pembury (inc. Public Relations) Working Group*



**Cllr Steve Rose**  
80 Woodhill Park, TN2 4NP



**Cllr Patrick Gillan**  
1 Knights Close, TN2 4EL  
Tel: 825324



**Cllr John Hine**  
68 Woodhill Park, TN2 4NP  
Tel: 824393  
*Vice Chair of Planning & Highways Working Group*



**Cllr Paul Roberts**  
107 Beagles Wood Road, TN2 4JJ  
Tel: 822602  
*Chair of Audit, Finance and Personnel Working Group*



**Cllr Mrs Chris Snow**  
1 Cornford Park, TN2 4PW  
Tel: 825428



**Cllr Duncan Hope**  
80 Woodhill Park, TN2 4NP  
Tel: 824496  
*Vice Chair of Audit, Finance & Personnel Working Group*



**Cllr Mrs Shelley Harris**  
29 Lower Green Road, TN2 4DZ  
Tel: 822544



**Cllr David Reilly**  
8 Forest Way, TN2 4DZ  
Tel: 458216  
*Vice Chair of Environment/Environmental Issues (inc. Allotments & Burials) Working Group*



**Clerk to Pembury Parish Council**  
Barbara Russell,  
c/o Parish Council Offices,  
Lower Green Recreation Ground  
Lower Green Road  
Pembury, TN2 4DZ  
Tel: 823193  
Email: [clerk@pemburypc.kentparishes.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@pemburypc.kentparishes.gov.uk)

**Deputy Clerk to Pembury Parish Council**  
c/o Parish Council Offices,  
Lower Green Recreation Ground  
Lower Green Road  
Pembury, TN2 4DZ  
Tel: 823193  
Email: [deputy@pemburypc.kentparishes.gov.uk](mailto:deputy@pemburypc.kentparishes.gov.uk)

## BOROUGH COUNCIL

Cllr Paul Barrington-King, 22 The Coppice, TN2 4EY  
Cllr Mrs June Crowhurst, 44 Elmhurst Avenue, TN2 4DA  
Cllr Mike Tompsett, 14 Gimble Way, TN2 4BX

Tel: 825144  
Tel: 824873  
Tel: 822711

## COUNTY COUNCIL

Cllr Chris Hoare  
KCC, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone, ME14 1XQ  
Tel: 08457 247 247



# VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

## AGE CONCERN

Mrs Sandra Springett. Tel: 522591

## AMBERSIDE DANCE STUDIO

Principal: Victoria Mustill-King. Tel: 724777

## CATHOLIC CHURCH

Fr. Ed Tomlinson. Tel: 825009

## CONSERVATIVE PARTY

Simon Bishop, 18 Cornford Park. Tel: 822302

## FRIENDS OF PEMBURY PARISH CHURCH

Chairman: Mrs S. Clarke, Little Stanton, Romford Road.  
Tel: 823932

## GUIDES, BROWNIES AND RAINBOWS

Mrs M. Allan, 9 Henwood Green Road. Tel: 822373

## HOSPICE IN THE WEALD

Maidstone Road. Tel: 820500

## KENT COLLEGE

Headmistress: Mrs Sally-Anne Huang. Tel: 822006

## KENT COLLEGE PREP SCHOOL & NURSERY

Headmistress: Mrs Ann Lawson. Tel: 820204

## LABOUR PARTY

Dave & Sally Osborn, 34 Canterbury Rd. Tel: 822726

## LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY

David Mills. Tel: 825577

## LITTLE RASCALS

c/o PBC Office. Tel: 825590

## MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY

TW District. Tel: 0845 6037882

## NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND, UK

Michael Coggles. Tel: 822705

## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Janet Ditchett. Tel: 822586

## OUT AND ABOUT CLUB

Sue Giles. Tel: 823318

## PEMBURY ATHLETIC (YOUTH) FOOTBALL CLUB

Colin Forward. Tel: 825436

## PEMBURY BAPTIST CHURCH

Church Office. Tel: 825590

## PEMBURY BOWLS CLUB

Phil Griffin. Tel: 01892 823129

## PEMBURY BRIDGE CLUB

Geoff Plummer. Tel: 824652

## PEMBURY COMMUNITY LINK GROUP FOR

## HOSPICE IN THE WEALD

Graham Hayler. 9 The Gill. Tel: 824680

## PEMBURY COMMUNITY WORKING PARTNERSHIP

Parish Office. Tel: 823193

## PEMBURY CRICKET CLUB

Secretary/Treasurer: Mr A Weaver, 51 Heskett Park  
Tel: 824362

## PEMBURY DAY CENTRE

c/o PBC Office. Tel: 825590

## PEMBURY ECO GROUP

Rick and Masha Bayles. Tel: 822865

## PEMBURY FOOTBALL CLUB

Saturday Secretary: Bill Baker. Tel: 825822

Sunday Secretary: Phil Craxton. 823928

Chairman: Andy Rice-Tucker. Tel: 822483

## PEMBURY FOOTPATH WALKERS

N. & K. Franklin, 11 The Meadow. Tel: 823212

## PEMBURY GARDENERS' SOCIETY

Ann Purton. Tel: 824223

## PEMBURY PAVILION BOOKINGS

Gillian Mayrick. Tel: 824852

## PEMBURY PLAYERS

James Whitehorn. Tel: 824854

## PEMBURY SCHOOL

School Office. Tel: 822259

## PEMBURY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Chair: Jo Alfieri. Tel: 824603

## PEMBURY SCHOOL HOUSE NURSERY

Teacher in charge: Rachel Teigen. Tel: 825580

## PEMBURY SHORT MAT BOWLING CLUB

Arthur Storey. Tel: 822509

## PEMBURY SOCIETY

Chairman: Lea-Ann Owen. Tel: 822929

## PEMBURY TENNIS CLUB

Mrs S. Smith, 2 Ridgeway. Tel: 822405

## PEMBURY U3A

Membership Secretary: Andrew Richardson. Tel: 824012

## PEMBURY UPPER AND OLD CHURCH

Rev'd. Douglas Robertson. Tel: 824761

## PEMBURY VILLAGE MARKET

Karol Young. Tel: 823413

## PEMBURY YOUTH THEATRE ACADEMY

Dee Parrott. Tel: 825773

## PEPENBURY

Principal: Mr Roger Gibson, Cornford Lane. Tel: 822168

## POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICER

PCSO Nick Brown. Tel: 07772 226001

## ROTARY CLUB OF SOUTHBOROUGH & PEMBURY

Secretary: Nigel Stratton. Tel: 822936

## ROYAL NATIONAL LIFEBOAT INSTITUTION

Peter Chartres, 54 Woodhill Park. Tel: 823759

## SCOUTS, CUBS AND BEAVERS

Michelle Usherwood. Tel: 822020

## SCOUT & GUIDE HQ MANAGEMENT TEAM

Michelle Usherwood. Tel: 822020

## ST. ANSELM HALL ENQUIRIES

Janet Ditchett. Tel: 822586.

## ST. PETER'S MOTHERS' UNION

Secretary: Tina Walters. Tel: 822545 (after 4pm)

## TABLE TENNIS CLUB

John Burleton. Tel: 823250

## THE ORDINariate OF OUR LADY OF WALSHINGHAM

Fr. Ed Tomlinson, 31 Henwoods Crescent. Tel: 825009

## TOWN & COUNTRY (HIGH WEALD HOUSING)

Housing manager: Antony Allder.

Tel: 0845 8731 321

## TREE WARDEN

Caroline Mazzey. Tel: 822493

## TUNBRIDGE WELLS ACCESS GROUP

Gill Pavely. Tel: 822605

## TUNBRIDGE WELLS & DISTRICT VICTIM SUPPORT SCHEME.

Tel: 513969

## VILLAGE HALL

Manager (bookings): Rachel Windus. Tel: 822837

## WHEELCHAIR LOAN (24 hour maximum, for Pembury Residents)

Pauline Hawker. Tel: 824327

## WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

Afternoon: Mrs Margaret Buss. Tel: 822530

Evening: Jane Jones. Tel: 823601



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